

TRANSCRIPTION - ORIGINAL FOLLOWS

2. DURING A CALL ON KHAYAL MOHAMMAD KATAWAZI, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE, SEPT 25 BY THE CHARGE, THE VISITING ICA DESK OFFICER MARILYN MCAFEE, AND THE PAO, THE MINISTER CALLED FOR "INCREASED COOPERATION" BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND THE UNITED STATES. THIS CONTRASTS WITH THE MINISTER'S VIEW EXPRESSED A MONTH AGO THAT "THE HOSTILITY OF VOA AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO THE REVOLUTION MAKES COOPERATION IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME." HE REPORTEDLY MADE THE LATTER REMARK WHEN HE ORDERED 34 STAFF MEMBERS OF HIS MINISTRY TO WITHDRAW FROM ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING AT USICA. THIS ORDER HAS NOW BEEN RESCINDED AND MINISTRY OFFICIALS WILL RESUME THEIR TRAINING.

3. THE MINSTER OPENED HIS REMARKS WITH A DESCRIPTION OF "THE GREAT CHANGES" OCCURRING IN AFGHANISTAN. HE CALLED THE COUNTRY "FREE AND INDEPENDENT" AND SAID IT WANTS "COOPERATION WITH ALL COUNTRIES WHO ARE WILLING TO HELP US." HE POINTED TO THE "SPECIAL IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL COOPERATION." NOW, HE SAID, "THE SITUATION IS SUCH THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO COOPERATE. KATAWAZI NOTED PARTICULARLY AFGHANISTAN'S NEED FOR ASSISTANCE FROM SUCH "DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AS YOURS" IN EDUCATION, TECHNICAL TRAINING AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR GOVERNMENT STAFF.

4. COMMENT: KATAWAZI'S WARM REMARKS CONTRASTED WITH THE UNFRIENDLY TENOR OF HIS VIEWS OF THE U.S. IN THE LAST MONTHS OF THE TARAHI REGIME. WE WOULD LIKE TO THINK THAT HIS CHANGED ATTITUDE SIGNALS A GENERAL SHIFT IN POLICY TOWARDS US, BUT WE ARE STILL GETTING CONTRARILY SIGNALS IN OTHER AREAS TO BE YET SURE. THE MANNER WHEREBY THE APPOINTMENT WAS MADE ALSO IS NOTEWORTHY. INITIALLY, WHEN USICA SOUGHT COURTESY CALL APPOINTMENTS FOR MS. MCAFEE WITH A VARIETY OF DRA OFFICIALS, ALL WERE REFUSED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AN OFFERED MEETING WITH THE MFA PROTOCOL CHIEF. THEN, IN A SUDDEN ABOUT FACE, THE ENTIRE LIST OF APPOINTMENTS WAS APPROVED AND ARRANGED. AMSTUTZ

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 17 SEP 68
 DE BRISB 0700A 272354Z
 RKN 00000 000
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 FM AMEMBASSY LAHORE
 TO DIRECTOR/STATE WASHDC 5613
 INFO RUSKIA/AFICA WASHDC
 MOSCOW/AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD 0102
 TEHRAN/AMEMBASSY MOSCOW 1945
 RUSSIA/AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI 7410
 TEBERAN/AMEMBASSY TEHRAN 0516
 BT
 C O A P I D E M T I A L 1800L 7229

PCL

CHRG

ECCH

RF

CHRG

1.0. INFO: 005 0/07/68 (AMEMB. J. BUCH) GR-
 TAGS: SOUL, CAPP, PERS, AP, US
 SUBJ: CALL ON MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE KATTAZI

1. (C - ENTIRE TEXT)

2. DURING A CALL ON PRATAP KATTAZI, MINISTER OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE, SEPT 24 0610Z CROSSL, THE VISITING SOA CASE OFFICER HAROLD MCAPPE, AND THE POC, THE MINISTER CALLED FOR "INCREASED COOPERATION" BETWEEN AFGHANISTAN AND THE UNITED STATES. THIS CONFRONTED WITH THE MINISTER'S VIEW EXPRESSED A MONTH AGO THAT "THE HOSTILITY OF US AND THE AMERICAN GOVERNMENT TO THE REVOLUTION MAKES COOPERATION IMPOSSIBLE AT THIS TIME." HE REPORTEDLY MADE THE LATTER REMARK WHEN HE OFFERED 34 STAFF MEMBERS OF HIS MINISTRY TO WITHDRAW FROM ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING AT USICA. THIS OFFER HAS NOW BEEN RESCINDED AND MINISTRY OFFICIALS WILL PURSUE THEIR TRAINING.

3. THE MINISTER OPENED HIS REMARKS WITH A DESCRIPTION OF "THE GREAT CHANGES" OCCURRING IN AFGHANISTAN. HE CALLED THE COUNTRY "FREE AND INDEPENDENT" AND SAID HE WANTS "COOPERATION WITH ALL COUNTRIES WHO ARE WILLING TO HELP US." HE POINTED TO THE "SPECIAL IMPORTANCE OF CULTURAL COOPERATION." NOW, HE SAID, "THE SITUATION IS SUCH THAT IT SHOULD BE POSSIBLE TO COOPERATE." KATTAZI NOTED PARTICULARLY AFGHANISTAN'S NEED FOR ASSISTANCE FROM SUCH "DEVELOPED COUNTRIES AS YOURS" IN EDUCATION, TECHNICAL TRAINING AND ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINING FOR GOVERNMENT STAFF.

4. COMMENTS: KATTAZI'S VIEW REMARKS CONTRASTED WITH THE CONFIDENTIAL SENSE OF HIS VIEW OF THE U.S. IN THE LAST MONTH OF THE PAKISTANI REGIME. HE WOULD LIVE TO THAT THAT HIS AMBIVALENT ATTITUDE SIGNALS A GENERAL SHIFT IN POLICY

TOWARDS US. BUT WE ARE STILL GETTING CONTRAST SIGNALS IN OTHER AREAS TO BE THE SOVIET. THE PAKISTANI WENT THE APPOINTMENT WAS MADE ALSO IN NOVEMBER. INITIALLY, WHEN USICA SOUGHT COUNTRY CALL APPOINTMENTS FOR MS. MCAPPE WITH A VARIETY OF CIA OFFICIALS. ALL WERE REFUSED WITH THE EXCEPTION OF AN OFFERED MEETING WITH THE USA PROTOCOL CHIEF. THEN, IN A COUNTRY ABOUT FACE, THE ENTIRE LIST OF APPOINTMENTS WAS APPROVED AND ARRANGED. AMEMB

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